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TAGS: ECON, OECD

SUBJECT: OECD STUDY ON FUTURE OF INDUSTRIALIZED SOCIETIES

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1. PLEASE CONVEY TO SECRETARIAT THAT WE WISH TO NOMINATE PROFESSOR WILLIAM BRANSON OF PRINCETON UNIVERSITY AS AN ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF THE SUBJECT STUDY. BRANSON IS HIGHLY QUALIFIED FOR THIS POSITION. HE HAS PUBLISHED EXTENSIVELY ON INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC POLICY QUESTIONS, IS A FORMER SENIOR STAFF ECONOMIST AT THE COUNCIL OF ECONOMIC ADVISERS, REPRESENTED THE U.S. AT OECD MEETINGS, WORKED ON QUESTIONS OF TRANSFER OF TECHNOLOGY ON THE OECD SECRETARIAT, AND IS CURRENTLY LEADING A FORD FOUNDATION PROJECT TO SPONSOR FOREIGN ECONOMIC POLICY RESEARCH IN ADDITION TO TEACHING AT PRINCETON. BIOGRAPHY OF BRANSON HAS BEEN POUCHED TO MISSION.

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2. WE ALSO SUPPORT THE SELECTION OF JACQUES LESOURNE AS

DIRECTOR OF THE PROJECT. AMERICANS WHO HAVE KNOWN AND WORKED WITH LESOURNE AS THE FRENCH MEMBER OF THE INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR APPLIED SYSTEMS ANALYSIS (IIASA) IN VIENNA UNIFORMLY PRAISE HIM IN THE HIGHEST TERMS, BOTH FOR HIS PROFESSIONAL AND MANAGERIAL SKILLS.

3. WE PLAN TO DISCUSS BRANSON'S NOMINATION WITH VAN LENNEP WHEN VAN LENNEP IS HERE NEXT WEEK. WE WILL PROPOSE THAT BRANSON VISIT PARIS LATER THIS MONTH TO WORK OUT TERMS OF EMPLOYMENT, MEET LESOURNE, AND POSSIBLY DISCUSS HIS IDEAS FOR SCOPE OF PROJECT ACTIVITIES.

MISSION SHOULD ALSO RAISE MATTER OF BRANSON TRAVEL WITH SECRETARIAT AND DATES IN JANUARY WHEN LESOURNE WOULD BE AVAILABLE TO MEET WITH BRANSON IN PARIS.

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